

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00778 151216Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CU-02 BIB-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 /047 W
-----151312Z 089374 /53

R 150947Z ZPR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2725
INFORUFHJA/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 992
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AXXASSY PRAGUE 1658
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0778

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, CSCE, BU
SUBJECT WESTERN NEWSPAPERS APPEAR IN SOFIA

USIA PASS IEU AND IBS/PE

REF: PRAGUE 881

1. WESTERN PERIODICALS APPEARED ON SALE IN SOFIA APRIL 11
OR 12, IN MAJOR HOTELS AND IN A FEW STREET KIOSKS. THEY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00778 151216Z

INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, LE MONDE, CORRIERE
DELLA SERA, SUEDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG (MUNICH), AND
ARBEITER-ZEITUNG (VIENNA).

2. PRICES ARE STIFF. LE MONDE SELLS FOR 45 STOTINKI (47 CENTS)
AND TRIBUNE FOR 95 STOTINIKI (NEARLY \$1.00). EACH OUTLET

SEEMS TO HAVE 5-10 COPIES OF EACH PAPER. THEY ARE ABOUT
3-4 DAYS OLD.

3. AT HOTEL PARK MOSKVA, WESTERN PAPERS WERE CLEARLY ON VIEW,
BUT BEHIND COUNTER, AROUND CORNER FROM DESK WHICH SELLS
FOREIGN COMMUNIST PUBLICATIONS.

4. EMBOFF TALKED WITH TWO BULGARIANS WHO HAD PURCHASED
PAPERS, ONE AT HOTEL BALKAN AND OTHER AT A KIOSK. THEY SAID
THAT THEY HAD EXPERIENCED NO DIFFICULTY NOR UNDUE CURIOSITY.

5. COMMENT: SITUATION IN HOTELS MAY PROVE SOME
BARRIER TO GENERALLY GUN-SHY BULGARIANS BUT KIOSKS ARE
SUFFICIENTLY IMPERSONAL TO PRESENT NO BARRIER. COST OF
PAPERS IS HIGH FOR A DAILY PAPER (LOCAL PAPERS COST 3 CENTS
EACH), AND AGE OF PAPERS MAY INDICATE THEY WERE SCREENED
BEFORE BEING RELEASED FOR SALE. (LE MONDES WERE FOLDED IN
SUCH A WAY TO INDICATE THEY HAD BEEN MAILED WHICH COULD ALSO
EXPLAIN LATENESS.)

6. PRESENCE OF PAPERS IS IN ANY CASE A WELCOME SIGN OF
GOB BELGRADE-CONSCIOUSNESS. A BULGARIAN JOURNALIST ARCHLY
SUGGESTED THAT WESTERN EMBASSIES NOT BUY THE PAPERS TO LEAVE
THEM FOR BULGARIANS.

HERZ

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWSPAPERS, PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT, REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA00778
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D770131-0814
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704101/aaaafsey.tel
Line Count: 91
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 43f1b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PRAGUE 881
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2664065
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970829
Subject: WESTERN NEWSPAPERS APPEAR IN SOFIA USIA PASS IEU AND IBS/PE
TAGS: SOPN, BU, XT, CSCE, PFOR, SOPN
To: BERLIN STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/43f1b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009